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# FLORIDA SKIP

VOL. 10 NO. 1

The All Florida Radio Amateur's Publication

JUNE 1966

Price 20¢



We are honored to publish this rare photo of FLORIDA'S TOP DXer: Enos L. Schera, Jr., W4VPD of Miami. Enos reached the TOP in Florida with this rig. Congratulations to a fine DXer. See W4VPD report below.

## DX REPORT

By Enos L. Schera, W4VPD

I have 333 countries confirmed now and only need VKØ (Heard Is.) and PYØ (St. Peter/St. Paul Rock Is.) to have complete DXCC to catch the world leaders. Hope my luck holds out! I'm using a 3-element yagi up only 40 feet—I've used it for the past 10 years. The rig is a Viking Valiant with 250 watts input.

I made my first 230 countries using 100 to 150 watts, and have never run a KW in my life. I did have a Viking 500 once and ran it at 600 watts CW for about two months, but kept it loaded to about 450W. I bought a KW final at the Tropical Hambooree in January 1965, but I still don't have it hooked up yet. That's the KW on the far right of my photograph (see elsewhere — ED.)

I made Honor Roll DXCC for

the first time in October 1963, but since it takes 3 months to appear in QST I was first listed in the January, 1964 issue. I was the first one in Florida to make it. I was also the third in the state to make WAZ 3756.

DXCC has new rules now which are unfair and partial. Everyone over 300 countries confirmed must submit QSL's in groups of ten. I guess it might be ten years before one might be able to muster up ten new countries to submit and have them listed on the honor roll, when he might already be on top of the pile. Ridiculous! They also say that the honor role is getting to large to print, so they will only print it twice a year in the June and December

(Continued on Page 14)

## EXCLUSIVE REPORT

By C. J. Bolvin, W4LVV  
Southeastern Division Director

The 1966 Board Meeting has just ended -- one of the most lengthy sessions in the book. The League has a new President, Robert W. Denniston, WØNWX, a member of the Board of Directors for the past ten years. "Denny" was the first delegate from the U.S. to the Region II IARU when it was organized in Mexico City in April, 1964. He has been a member of the Region II IARU Executive Committee and also the ARRL Executive Committee. With his election to the Presidency of the League, he automatically assumes the same office in the IARU.

Wayland M. Groves, W5NW, was re-elected as First Vice-President, and two Board Members, Charles G. Compton, WØBUO and Gilbert L. Crossley, W3YA/W3DKN, were elected as additional Vice Presidents. Alex Reid, VE2BE and Francis E. Handy, W1BDI, were elected as Honorary Vice-Presidents.

As somewhat of a precedent-making step, the "working Vice President", Compton and Crossley, retain their seats on the Board. The new Executive Committee is made up of Compton, Crossley, Eaton and Smith as Board Members along with President Denniston, Vice-President Groves, and General Manager Huntoon. There will no longer be "non-voting" members of the Executive Committee.

The Articles and By-Laws were extensively revised and updated, but for the most part, major proposed changes were

defeated. The revised Articles and By-Laws should appear in QST in the not too distant future.

A number of proposals which did not survive the Article and By-Law sessions have been referred to various committees for further study. One of these is the "Life Membership," Another was the possible appointment of a "Public Relations Manager" at the Divisional or Section level.

One proposal, of particular interest in this Division, would have changed eligibility to hold office by substituting "renewable FCC amateur license" for the present wording "General Class of higher". Primarily for the reason that the FCC has not yet made its future plans known, this was defeated. As a side comment here, it would appear that it may be six to eight months before FCC action on Docket 15928 is forthcoming. This not because of FCC disinterest, but the exact opposite -- this is a Docket that the head of the responsible section will not delegate! So until he gets time to go through some 2000 comments and carefully evaluate them, we'll just have

(Continued on Page 15)

FINAL REMINDER... June 25 & 26 is this year's date for the annual ARRL field day. Florida Skip will have the trophies all shined up ready for the two top winners. Our FD rules are the same as last year. Get your scores in early please. Good luck and CQ FD CQ FD CQ FD.....

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Dear Mabel XYL Award, c/o Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla.

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## Guest Editorial

### MATTHEW 24:6

As I'm always sermonizing, I might as well have a real sermon-type title. The passage I refer to speak of "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars." But how does this relate to radio? It's easy: We are like the United Nations with the ITU as Secretary General, and members consisting of FCC, VOA, Citizens Banders; ARRL, IOAR; QST, CQ, 73; Amateur Radio News Service, Amateur Radio Editors Association; Certificate hunters by the horde; manufacturers, and amateurs of all classes. And like the UN, we are always fighting! The magazines fight, the license classes fight, the associations fight, the Certificate hunters fight, and VOA stays packed right in the amateur bands -- fighting both amateurs and Communism. My late mother used to tell me I must have had nothing else better to do, when I got in a fight. So it is with us.

A wartime economy booms, so it makes something to write editorials about, me included. And it takes up air time which otherwise would go to waste with snappy By Golly's and Down the Old Logs.

A little honest difference of opinion is not only healthy, it's the backbone of our human nature, but when people and publications and organizations spend most of their time and talents in escalating opinions into Great Causes I feel we have reached a point where surely we have nothing better to do. Take out some of this excess energy in helping a prospective licensee, or a disabled amateur or cleaning up a lot of that hay-wire in your Radio Parlor, or even studying a bit. As a last resort, buy a lame cator an old stool, and kick it now and then.

(By Bob Noyer, W0IKQ ED. CVARC BANDSPREAD)



## Letters To Editor

Many thanks for your letter with the two certificates and rules of the same. I'm going to give them full publicity in our "Bulletin", so perhaps you'll receive some applications from our subscribers in the near future.

Boy, the SKIP XYL Award is a great idea. Only in my case I'm not quite sure of it as my XYL is a ham, too, OH2FB. Anyway, she's not too active, so she really deserves the certificate.

It seems to me that the AHC finally - after over 8 years of existence - is getting some publicity in the U.S. amateur radio magazines. K6BX really effectively took care of censoring all the material we forwarded to the CQ Magazine during the past years, so only very few U.S. hams actually know about us. We are very thankful to you if you publish some information about us in your publication. Thank you very much indeed!

The AHC is no serious organization, and we take the things day by day. We just try to gather 'award-minded' hams

together to form a fraternity and to discuss these matters in a friendly way. We have nobody strictly ordering what to do, neither we have any regular band activities. If there comes need for something we take it, and if we have nothing to do, we don't do it. Anyway, our slogan is: "Quality, not quantity", which perhaps explains our trend the best way.

Personally, the AHC is just a great hobby-in-hobby to me. More seriously I'm taking a few other things bound to ham radio. I'm the Secretary of the Finnish Amateur Radio League, Editor of the Finnishham magazine "Radioamatoori" and also the IARU Region-I liaison officer for Finland. Earlier I also was the Oscar coordinator in Finland but couldn't handle that all well enough so gave up the Oscar activities to OH2AZT.

I'm 30 years of age, XYL Marie OH2FB plus three kids, YL's of 7 and 2 years and OB of 4 years there between. Professionally I'm a Public Relations man, also journalist

(Continued on Page 14)



## SMALL PAIR BEATS A FULL HOUSE

One particular pair, **SB-34** sideband transceiver/exciter and **SB2-LA** gallon linear amplifier—are small enough to beat a full house. Or, for that matter, any no-room-for-passengers KW mobile installation.

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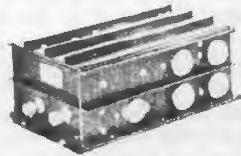
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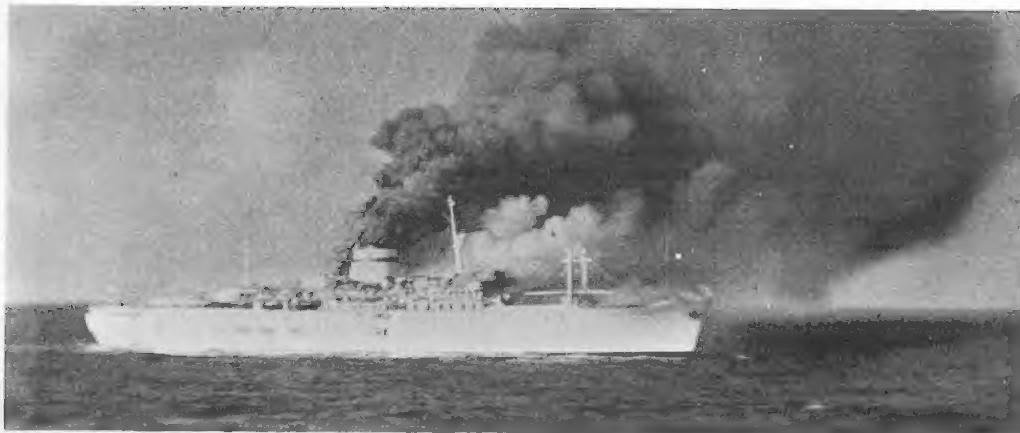
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The Viking Princess burning at sea. This photo was taken by Ken Lewis, K4GUE of Ft. Myers Beach from a German rescue ship. See adjoining story.

## Viking Princess Disaster At Sea

By Ken & Dot Lewis  
K4GUE and W4MUY

(This is a true story of the Viking Princess disaster last April, told by Ken and Dot Lewis of Fort Myers Beach. Read on...)

After the boat hit the water, the heaving seas picked us up and slammed us violently against the unwieldy side of the ship. The huge hook on the block and tackle caught in the bow gunwhale momentarily and when we fell in a trough it tore the whole bow section of the gunwhale loose and hung the bow of the boat at a crazy angle. After several attempts the seaman in the bow managed to slip the block hook out of the twisted steel and we fell free...but still we were being slammed into the side of the ship with grinding crashes. Had this been a wooden boat it would have been reduced to splinters in a matter of seconds. It was then that I discovered that we were being held fast to the ship by one-inch line that was fastened to the bow of the boat and up to the rail of the ship sixty odd feet above. After a dozen agonizing moments the seaman managed to chop the line through and at last we were adrift.

We drifted aft of the burning ship about half a mile or so and began grouping the life boats together. One boat had an engine and they picked up other boats and took them in tow. Looking back at the dying "Princess" we could see flames reflected behind every port-hole in the ship. It was a raging inferno aboard, now. Heavy black smoke continued to pour out of the huge funnel and or-

ange and dark red flames spurted up and through the volume of smoke to be turned -- as a candle flame in a draft.

The seas were mild, running about three or four feet in gentle swells with a pleasant south easterly breeze of about fifteen knots. Having been in these waters years ago when I was on another cruise ship (U.S. Navy) I knew that there were usually plenty of sharks around, and this was born out when dawn finally came, with many cruising around just below the surface of the water. The water in this area of the Windward Passage is about 350--400 fathoms -- another bit of information, I kept to myself.

Never at any time was fear or panic reflected in any of the actions I saw. No hysteria or pushing, shoving or crying; there just seemed to be words of encouragement, thankfulness, appreciation, assurance -- and even praise for our gallant crew. They all knew and did their jobs so well and so efficiently -- and in obscurity. The passengers themselves -- did most of the comforting of each other and this was the primary reason there was no panic.

It was quarter to three now and the "Cap Norte", a German Freighter bound for Australia, had steamed into our midst and hove to. She lowered her gangway and the lead-boat with the engine headed for it with one other boat and ours in tow. We were the third boat to be unloaded and on stepping off the gangway onto the deck of this huge freighter, an officer in fine English said, "Throw your jackets in that pile, you won't need them anymore. That

freighter -- incidentally hadn't heard the XXX message from our stricken ship. However, a crewman on deck had spotted the red rocket flares and the ship had been ordered about and raced to our rescue, arriving first of all the rescue craft that would arrive. She had been two and a half hours out of Kingston Jamaica headed for the Panama Canal, bound for Sidney Australia. It sure was a beautiful sight to behold -- a gleaming white ship (about 800 ft., 30,000 ton class) all lit up with cargo lights and spot lights coming toward us out of the uncertain moonlit darkness.

All through the remaining night until about seven A.M. the "Cap Norte" took aboard survivors from seven life boats and carefully hoisted the empty boats aboard with her cargo booms; carefully placing them on deck and on top of cargo -- and hatches. Then about 0700 we steamed to within about a half mile from the still burning "Princess" and stood by just watching it burn. It was then that I got the opportunity to get the pictures that I did. During the night we had drifted South about eight or ten miles from the burning ship.

At about 0800 the Captain told me that they had decided to take us into Guantanamo instead of Kingston. We were escorted into GITMO by a destroyer, later joined by two Navy sea-going tugs.

At 1200 we docked at GITMO with hundreds of Naval personnel and Red Cross Ladies lining the pier, and gobs of brass from admirals on down. As they lowered the gangway onto the pier an official Navy car

arrived and deposited "OUR" two Captains at the bottom of the gangway. A cheer went up from the decks of the Cap Norte, crowded with survivors. The Captain had been picked up by the "Chunking Victory" a Chinese Nationalist ship, and later transferred by helicopter. He then shook hands with every survivor as he disembarked from the "Cap Norte."

We were checked for injuries and those needing any medical attention were turned over to the Red Cross. The rest were transported by Navy Buses to Barracks which a few hours before had been the home of hundreds of enlisted men. After being assigned to a cubicle, we were treated to a special Navy Chow at the CPO's Mess and returned to the Barracks.

We were informed that the ships service would be opened for us and those who had lost their money could buy essentials up to \$30 worth -- compliments of the Red Cross.

We were told that arrangements were being made by the ships owners to charter Commercial Aircraft, five of them, to fly us to Miami. We were also informed that we could send radiograms via Red Cross Headquarters, Washington, through the Navy Radio Station.

Four Amateur Radio Operators at the base were ready and waiting to phone patch us into the states as soon as contacts could be made. Thru KG4AM, whom I had worked on many occasions, I was patched thru a North Carolina Ham to my daughter in West Palm Beach (who said she would have accepted a call from the Moon if necessary). They were using SSB on 15 and 20 meters. I found out that Florida Hams were very scarce but one in Jacksonville was being used -- but couldn't handle the volume -- (Where was everybody?). Before we left Guantanamo the Hams there had handled more than 200 patches and were still going strong.

After another meal at the CPO's Mess we were loaded in busses again and deposited at the Ferry Dock on the edge of Guantanamo Bay. (These ferries are converted landing craft and are used to transport passengers and vehicles across the bay from the Naval Station to the Naval Air Station).

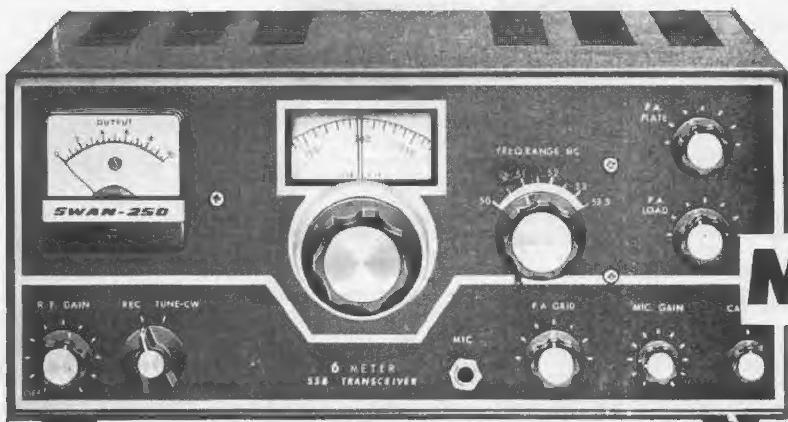
When I was on the patch to my daughter she mentioned that she had been calling the Coast Guard, Airlines, Ship Owners and everyone she could think of

(Continued on Page 14)

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# CLUB NEWS

## DADE RADIO CLUB

By W4EDP

The regular meeting on April 5 had a couple of visitors in the persons of Gene, K4KJA and Mike, HC-5MH/W4. Welcome, fellows, and be sure to come again, soon. Lotsa talk about Field Day and a few things settled, for sure I think. We have our regular site again this year so a good beginning has been made. Some interest has popped up again about classes preparatory to the Extra Class exam, and our school committee is going to come up with something along this line; possibly a series of forums on pertinent subjects. Sure as shootin' the FCC will come up with some changes in the licensing so we'd better be prepared, and the sooner we start the better.

W4LQN got a new beam and some of us went over to help him put it up and take down the old one. He now has a 6 element beam up and he said that it worked fine. It is a big rascal.

At our last club meeting we voted in three new members, and would like to introduce them. There was Gene K4KJA, Rex W4BYB, and Lois Keith, no call yet. We are going to have to change that soon.

Not too much news this trip, everyone seems to be talking vacation these days.

## VBARC

By Dennis Yantz WA4YFY

The VBARC has regained a member, Hal Shipe WA4OTM who left about a year ago on business returned. He was present at our last meeting. It's especially nice for me to see Hal back, because he was among the fine amateurs that got me started and helped me get my license. We certainly hope Hal is back to stay and hope he finds success.

Grover, W4DFZ left for Chicago recently. He is going to visit some friends and relatives. He even went through all the trouble of taking his equipment so we can try to work him. He says that he will write me to set up a sked.

Amateur radio recently received honors, thanks to some of our local amateurs. As some of you may know, a particularly violent tornado struck Overland Park, Kans. on April 19. A Mr. Richard W. Schmidt of Vero Beach, has a son and his family live-

ing there. He was quite concerned about their welfare but was unable to reach them by any of the usual services. Mr. Schmidt called the local newspaper who in turn directed him to call Richard Jackson WA4RQB, president of VBARC. Dick then called Grover W4DFZ who was able to set up a phone patch. Within one hour Mr. Schmidt was talking to his family. Our top traffic man L. J. WA4SCK also sent a CW message and received a reply shortly after the phone patch. Amateur radio got there twice in one day.

The club would also like to extend their thanks to Mr. Schmidt for the very nice thank you note that was printed in the local paper.

## B.A.R.C.

By Jim Wilson, WA4RXG

All chairs were taken at our April meeting and an equally good crowd is expected for the May meeting.

Oliver Lovendahl, W4AHZ, Civil Defense Director, will show an interesting film, "Alaskan Earthquake". This film portrays the teamwork between Civil Defense and Amateur Radio and how their cooperation aided the people caught in this tragedy. Luvvy is our newest Navy MARS member. He has the call N6EFK.

In our Blind Ham Project, thanks to Jim Heston, W4EKJ, all necessary components have been purchased to construct two Tone Comparator units for sightless hams. The work of mounting parts and wiring will be farmed out to club members at our May meeting.

The call of Jim Wilson, your correspondent, formerly WA4RXG, has been changed to W4GDK.

Quite a coincidence among our members -

K4EOD - "Army" Armstrong  
KW4EOD - Ivan Peterson  
K4QAY - Don Layman  
WA4QAY - Hal LaMarche

Welcome to our new members, voted in at April meeting! Joining the ranks were Ed Schramko, WA3CBC-4 - Johnny Darmos, SWL-Kenneth Steadman, WB4CKT - Charles Fowkes, WB4BOM - Hugh Hoym, W9LYI - Ivan Peterson, W4EOD - Stephen Laurenty, SWL. Glad to have you with us, fellas!

Broward Amateur Radio Club will meet at the Broward County Medical Association Building, 2200 South Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, at 8 P.M., Wednesday, May 11.

## TOP TWENTY TRAFFIC TAKERS

Each month we are happy to list the top 20 Florida traffic takers. We hope to see your call here next month.

For April 1966

1. W3CUL/4	2665	11. W3VR/4	189
2. W4FP	1189	12. K4KDN	166
3. WA4SCK	1008	13. WA4OHO	160
4. WA4NEV	657	14. WA4DEL	156
5. WA4NBT	656	15. W4BVE	139
6. W4TUB	570	16. K4SJH	129
7. K4BSS	298	17. W4AKB	118
8. K4BNE	249	18. K4NMZ	112
9. WA4IMC	203	19. WA4WEB	103
10. K4VND	194	20. W4GOX	96

## WESTERN FLA. NEWS

Frank M. Butler, Jr. W4RKH

WFPN and QFN operated for several hours in emergency session on April 5, handling tornado inquiry traffic. Over 300 messages were handled.

Pensacola: OM and XYL WA4UAJ and WAUAI are active on 6 and 2-meters. Fort Walton: W4BVE attended disaster communications meeting in New Orleans, and described operation of WARM. W2ZRX/4 has a new SR-42 for 2-meters. WA3APO/4 is up to 100 countries worked, in 18 months.

Crestview: K4KHV has a BC-610 fired up. The Crestview gang is stirring up activity on 28.6 Mc. nightly.

Seagrove Beach: K4QVL is recovering from an operation. Panama City: K4MZA accepted job of EC; WA4NRP continues as RACES RO. Defuniak Springs: W4HQN was seriously injured in auto accident.

Chipley: WN4ZIM has a Twoer and 6-el. beam on 145.2 mc. and has applied for Technician Class. Quincy: The HF SSB rig purchased by CD has been installed in the EOC. K4-QDN is chief operator.

Tallahassee: K4YPI is now working for Davco Electronics; CD is looking for a full-time paid radio operator. The Novice Class ended with over a dozen graduates. K4VRT got another good score on the last F.M.T.

## TAMPA AMATEUR

### RADIO CLUB

(Following Via RTTY-FATT)

NR 48 W4ZAG no check Tampa Florida March 1966.

To: Andy Clark, Editor Florida Skip, Miami Springs, Florida.

BT

By Marvin M. Bostian, WA4HDK

Following the pattern set last month, we had two excellent programs for May. On May 2 our President, Glenn Averill, WA4LLU, made a presentation about the various things that could affect your power bill and what could be done to reduce these. At the conclusion he passed out a form for everyone to fill out, indicating how much they would be willing to pay for the electricity to power a certain device, such as a stove or water heater, and in almost every case the total estimated cost was much higher than their actual guy from this area.

On May 16 Robert McLean employed in the Field Support Operation at Honeywell Inc. made an excellent talk on microelectronics. Slides were used to show details and to illustrate the talk.

Membership in the Club is at a high for the past few years. We have 54 paid-up members in good standing. Congratulations to our Membership Committee.

Our entire Building Committee - Maintenance - was out of operation a few weeks ago, since both Jim Bingham W4KRC, and John Fogarty, W4CI, were in the hospital. John is out now and Jim is better but still confined to the hospital.

This could be another first for TARC. Jim Bingham is Emergency Coordinator for Hillsborough County, and the entire S.E.T. operation which took place May 7 was planned and coordinated from his hospital bed. TARC cooperated by making their club and equipment available for the operation. An interesting feature is that all equipment used was mobile or operated on emergency power. TARC equipment operated on low band and

2 and 6 meters.

A fine job, Jim. You probably couldn't have done better if you had been on your feet and at the Clubhouse all day.

## WEST PALM BEACH

By Roy F. Carter WA4SFF

The West Palm Beach Radio Club met in the club house on May 2nd. with V. Pres. Ted Kohle presiding. This was due to the resignation of Bob Parkman as Pres. for personal reasons.

Plans were made for the antenna and tower raising for Sat. May 7th to complete the station's antenna system to allow operation on all bands 80-2.

In other business the club voted as an active member James Hughes KP-4APY. James is a retired Army Colonel who is making his home in Palm Beach and awaiting his new call.

The club also voted to participate in Field Day on June 25-26th. We hope to run two transmitters and operate from Jonathan Dickinson State Park. Any one in the Palm Beach area interested in participation may do so by contacting Roy Carter by phone at 663-6367.

The next meeting will be held on June 8th at the club house at which time election of officers will take place.

## SUNCOAST ROVING

### REPORTER

By Cathy Soehl, W4BAV

As "per usual" the Suncoast was well represented at the Orlando Hamfest, Apr. 30-May 1st. W4WPD-Shirley, OM, W4UFR-Earl, from Tampa; W4IUR-Mim, OM, K4VNA-Walt, Daytona Beach; W4BIL-Fran, OM, W4WME-Bill, Clearwater; K4GZ-Charlie, XYL-Mina, Port Salerno; and W4BAV-Cathy, OM, W2HJM-Bill, Sarasota, all stayed at the Hibiscus Motel, just across the park from the Cherry Plaza Hotel. W4BAV was so busy trying to see everyone, she failed to list those from St. Pete & Sarasota; however, though we did not bring the Swan 350 back with us, was pleased to hear K4DYB-Ozzie, from Sarasota, was the lucky guy from this area.

The only lucky one in the group mentioned above was W4WPD-Shirley, as she won a \$25.00 check on the drawing at the SSB dinner. Most everyone agreed that having the dinner dance Sat. night, rather than the usual Sunday banquet, worked out much better. Congratulations to the Orlando Radio Club and the Committee on a fine hamfest.

W4PWB-Walt and XYL, K4CSC-Edna gave a showing of pictures taken on their recent trip to Hawaii, to a group at the QTH of W4UR-Ed and XYL-Sweetie. Walt is a square dance caller and each year the group takes a trip; last year being to Jamaica.

K4GZ-Charlie and XYL-Mina Mae celebrated their 38th anniversary April 29th. Congratulations, may you have many more happy years.

K4ENW-George, who was at the Orlando Hamfest with his family, advised the new address given in last months SKIP was incomplete being: 3908 LeJune Ave., Indian River City, Titusville, Fla. He is working for RCA at the Cape.

In a recent QSO with W4GWW-Jim, in Largo, W4BAV caught up on a lot

(Continued on Next Page)

of local news. Sorry to learn that W4GWW had been in the hospital for 24 days, due to major surgery; however, glad he is well on the road to recuperation which will take time. Also heard W4PMX—Andy, Largo, has been in Bay Pines; trust he is now home and completely recovered.

Congratulations to K4PBP—Dick on his marriage, new home on Coquina Key and building much of the furniture for it.

W4YKB—Stan, in Sarasota, phoned W4BAV—Cathy to pass a message given him by W4OBM—Harris, in Virginia Beach, Va., Stan was quite pleased with the QSO and thrilled to get in contact, though Harris, with an old friend of his, who had moved from Mass to Va.

Welcome to the Suncoast area, W2JCA—Bill, who has just moved to St. Pete from New York. Bill is looking for a tower and beam.

W2HJM/4—Bill of Sarasota, is now a real native; just received his new call of W4GHR (Good Ham Radioman).

W4NOK—Jack may now be heard in the wee hours with W2RMC (Real Monkey Chatter), as he and XYL—WA4NFA—Frances are back in Ocean City, N.J. for another season of operating their hotel and motel. Hurry back we miss you.

#### NORTH MIAMI By Mel Page, WA4NHT

Pretty busy is the word these days for members of NOMARC. We just finished participating in the Florida S.E.T. and I will say that all those who took an active part really enjoyed it. Andy, W4IYT, Bill K4ZDS, Andy, and Gary, WA4PDM pulled a sneaky one on us with a mock train disaster in No. Miami.

With this writer in Mobile and the others at the base station there was plenty to do in setting up communications from hospitals in the area and to find accommodations for supposedly six hundred injured.

We were designated the KEY station for the local S.E.T. and net control for the Fla. S.E.T. on Net Charlie. Rigs operation on 75 S.S.B., 10 mtr. A.M., 6 mtr. A.M. and also monitored 2 mtrs. All rigs worked fine but we found out that without enough Mobiles this area is "immobile." We have six 10 mtr transceivers in the conversion stage right now just waiting on the crystals that were ordered.

We would like fellows that operate mobile, regardless of the mode or power to give us a call. Let us know if we could count on you to help out in case of a real emergency. If we could build up a reservoir of about 50 then we know that at least 4 could be counted on when the chips are down. No drills, checkins etc., just let us know if you are mobile to be of a help.

I will say that besides operating the rigs we all had plenty of times to eat up a 15 pound imported ham, baked beans, sodas, etc. Yum-yum was that delicious.

Our next project is a station to be set up in the Cloverleaf Bowling Alley on Rt. 441 in July. We will provide communications to the countries participating in this International Bowling Tournament sponsored by Metro-Miami. But more details will come in next month's column.

Our thanks to all members that participated during the S.E.T. Too many calls to put down as we did have a "full house."

Work is coming along fine on our RTTY operation. A convertor is being

built at this time and I think that we will be on the air sometime this summer with an additional mode of operation. We think that meetings will be expanded to alternate Wednesday nights so that we could have movies, lectures, plus in addition to our regular 2nd and 4th Thursday night meetings. So any of you fellows that would like to come down are always welcome. Meetings are at 8 P.M. Coffee pot is always hot at No. Miami City Hall Basement.

The club station WA4KJF is also on Army MARS station. A new addition to all of our operating gear is a 24 hour tape recorder. So, in the words of that fellow on T.V., "Come on down" we would like to see you all.

#### FT. MEYERS CLUB By Ken, W4SMK

Last month's club meeting featured a highly interesting talk by Ken Lewis, K4GUE, on his adventures aboard the Viking Princess. He had high praise for the conduct of the crew, and of the crews of the ships that rescued the passengers. We were all thankful that Ken and Dot were rescued safe and sound. See also their FB story and photo in SKIP this issue.

Also on the program was a demonstration by Bill Walker, WA4SCW and Bob Sloat, K4VGN, of their new amateur TV cameras to be used on 420 Mc. The entire FMARC was on TV for the first time. They promised another program soon.

W4HSC, the local Civil Defense base station, got a good 4 hour work out

on emergency powers during the Spring SET. 16 of the local AREC members participated in the test. W4TUB and W4SMK handled the out of town traffic on the State wide portion of the SET. In addition to the amateurs CD has some 200 plus commercial mobile stations available. We have come a long way since Donna in 1960.

Don Wright WA4LBM took the First Phone test in Miami and is hopeful that he passed. He already holds second phone.

This is Field Day month, and we wish the other Fla. clubs lots of luck, but not too much. New and very interesting rules this year. We hope to have a new club call, W4LX, in time for FD.

Congratulations for the AREC people in the tornado areas who did such a fine job. The net controls showed a great deal of patience and restraint. Some stations still call a phone patch to Aunt Minnie formal traffic. I often wonder where some of these "emergency operators" hang out all the rest of the year? Never hear them on any of the regular traffic nets.

Drive carefully while mobilizing along on your Summer vacation so you can enjoy the next issue of SKIP.

#### H.A.R.S. NEWS

##### By Bill Lynn, K4VAO

Attention! This is advance notice of our June 28th meeting. Lou Bellavia, K4PDR, will demonstrate amateur tv. He will use three cameras and transmit from Lutz, Fla., to Tampa, Fla. He has finished his new amplifier and will put out at least

350 watts of video power. Special permission has to be obtained from FCC to transmit over 50 watts. Every one is invited to attend this highly interesting and informative demonstration.

Hillsborough County Civil Defense awarded a Certificate of Merit to HARS in grateful recognition of outstanding performance during the tornado disaster in North Tampa, April 4th and 6th.

HARS next meeting will be included in a picnic to be held at Rowlett Park in North Tampa. Prizes will be awarded to women and children. Everybody is invited to come join in the fun May 29, 1966. Coffee and drinks will be free but bring your own food.

Several items were discussed at HARS last meeting. One was that all retiring officers after serving one year would be awarded a pin or some token of appreciation for their services. Also at the end of each year a trophy would be presented to a member for the most outstanding achievement in amateur radio.

Plans are being made now for the annual HARS Hamfest to be held in October this year. All comments and suggestions are welcome and appreciated.

#### FLAMINGO NET

##### By W4EDP

At last count the membership was up to 28 paid up; not a large number, but all quality. Glad to hear John, W4RWT back on again after his busy season. Charlie, W4MNN

(Continued on Page 10)

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# Homey Homebrew

By Dick Blasco, WA4DHU  
Special Assistant to Editor

## Part VI of a Series

This month we have the final schematic diagram for the HRO-453 receiver: the all-important front end. Probably the vast majority of my research, planning, dreaming, and thinking went into the proper design of the front end. The front end should be constructed with care and values observed fairly closely.

The circuitry shown in the diagram is intended to combine a high degree of sensitivity, low noise, very good to excellent cross-modulation protection, and stability. Although the original HRO used two stages of RF, the very high gm of the 6EH7 RF amplifier made any more stages superfluous and detrimental to overload. The 6EH7 is a remote cutoff pentode with a gm of 12,500. The high gain insures excellent sensitivity, and the remote cutoff characteristic provides overload protection. Contrary to some thought, triodes are NOT recommended, as well as sharp cutoff pentodes, for this use due to their poor overload characteristics. The first two tuned circuits in the HRO are combined between antenna and RF grid to increase RF selectivity and therefore overload protection. The coup-

ling condenser is adjusted for maximum selectivity commensurate with good sensitivity (0.5 uv or better) and proper tracking. The coils are the original HRO plugs, of course.

The 7360 first mixer provides a low noise, high gain, circuit with negligible oscillator pulling and excellent cross-modulation protection. The 6BY6 is a high gain tube with good dynamic range, and is used as a second mixer/oscillator. The purpose of the 455 kc xtal filter is threefold: protection of the 6BY6 from cross modulation, provision of a rejection notch, and provision of extra CW selectivity. The oscillator coil is from a BC-453, and pin numbers are given. In SB1 the oscillator is adjusted to 540kc and then the switch is closed to SB2 and adjusted to 370 kc. The two condensers can be adjusted for proper replacement of the signal on the selectivity curve (explained next month) and exact correspondence of sidebands.

A 12AT7 is used in the hf oscillator/cathode follower arrangement. This circuit came from an old article in 73 Magazine on the prevention and cure of drift. Temperature compensation of the oscillator may be

added if desired to increase stability. KEEP ALL LEADS IN THE OSCILLATOR SHORT AND SOLID. The HRO has good mechanical stability—don't ruin it by cold solder joints or wobbly wiring. The unusual arrangement with the RF choke in the cathode is to keep all current out of the oscillator coil, reducing heating and therefore drift. With the positive contact action of the plug-in coils, stability should be excellent, and superior to most receivers new or old, excluding of course ones with crystal controlled front ends.

The delayed AGC of the receiver is applied to all amplifier and mixer stages to increase the receiver's dynamic range. Remember to place a shield between pins 1 and 9 of the 6EH7 socket, otherwise the bottle will oscillate. The RF and first mixer circuits are from QST, and the second converter based on circuitry in the SX-101 receiver.

If built properly, this front-end when teamed up with the rest of the circuitry should provide a receiver with sensitivity, selectivity, and cross-modulation characteristics able to dig deep down for that hard-to-get signal.

As mentioned before, this is the final diagram. The power supply is very standard and will not be shown. It should supply 250 v@ 150 ma, 150 V regulated, and 6.3 VAC @ 3A. or more.

Next month I hope to have

# QFN Report

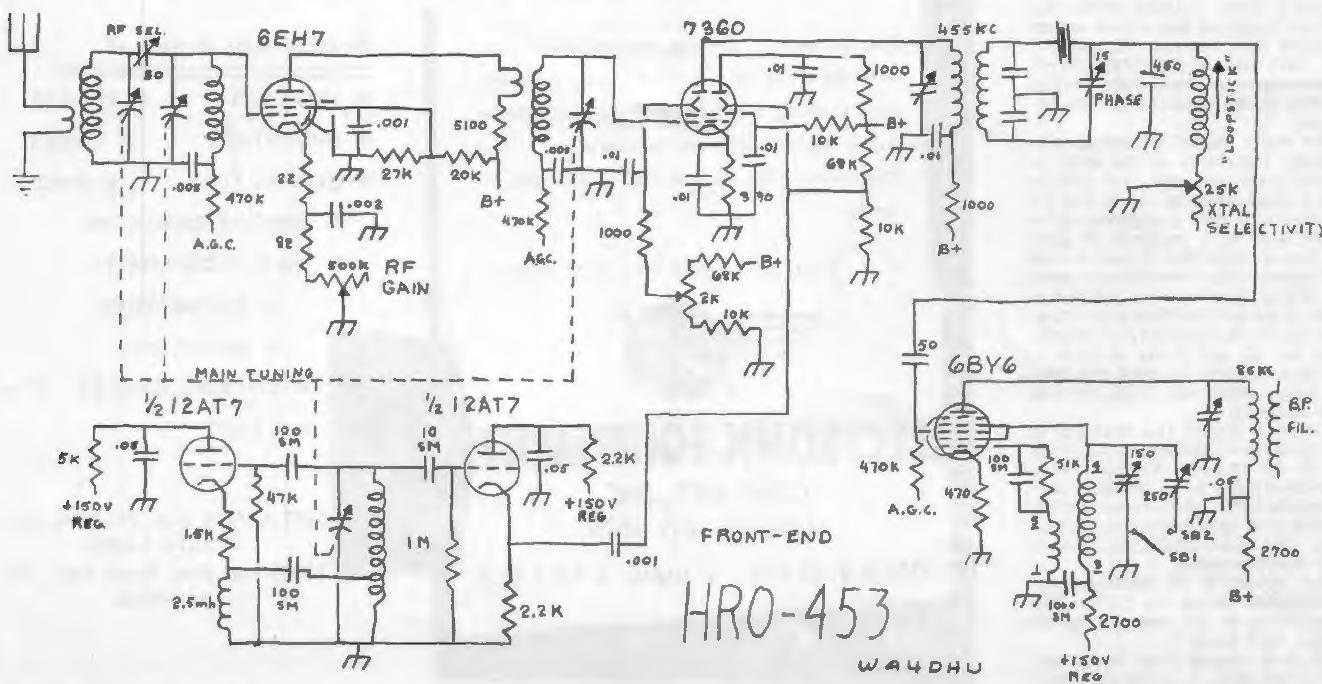
By WA4OHO

A substantial number of QFN member convened for the annual QFN Breakfast at the Cherry Plaza Hotel in Orlando. Those in attendance discussed net problems, which included that of stations with net assignments who don't show up when they are designated. It was recommended that if QFN is to remain active, new blood must be solicited. Stations are especially needed from Clearwater, Key West, West Palm Beach, and Ft. Lauderdale, but stations from any city are welcome. QFN would like to welcome newcomers WB4CAP, W4DVO, and W4ILE; we hope that you will be with us for a long time.

QFN would like to express its appreciation to: WA4NET, K4Y-OQ, WB4AJV, K4FQP and W4-FPC who performed meritorious service during the recent tornado.

All interested in handling traffic quickly and efficiently are sincerely invited to check into QFN, which meets daily on 3651 kc at 1830 and 2200 EST.

Some pictures of the thing, and will wrap up this series with alignment and performance data, some final notes, and a general summarization. I hope this month's circuit will be useful to you in your receiver project. 73 till next month.



# PROCLAMATION

State of Florida  
Executive Department  
Tallahassee

WHEREAS, Florida Amateur Radio Operators give unstintingly of their time, talents, and energies to provide emergency communications whenever and wherever needed, and

WHEREAS, foreswearing all considerations of monetary and material gain, amateurs, individually and collectively, have contributed significantly to the advancement of the state of the art of communications, and

WHEREAS, through their voluntary activities, amateurs throughout Florida and the United States have made significant contributions toward the maintenance of international good will between the United States and the world, and

WHEREAS, purely for unselfish personal reasons, amateurs have aided and contributed to the rehabilitation of blind and otherwise handicapped persons, procured medical and other assistance for the isolated and desperate in all parts of the world, and

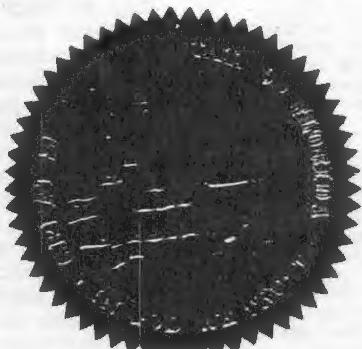
WHEREAS, amateur radio operators in Florida and elsewhere have strengthened the bonds to their homes for thousands of service men stationed in the Arctic, Antarctic, the remote tracking stations, scientific exploring parties and military bases all over the world, and

WHEREAS, Florida Amateur Operators stand ready at all times to go to the aid of the nation in case of national emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Haydon Burns, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida do hereby proclaim June 19 - 25, 1966, as

## FLORIDA AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS WEEK

in Florida, and call upon the citizens of this state to join with the Amateur Radio Operators in observance of this week with appropriate exercises to further and stimulate interest in amateur radio.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 2nd day of May, A. D., 1966.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature of Haydon Burns, followed by the word "GOVERNOR" in capital letters.

(Editors Note: Our thanks to George Thruston W4MLE in Tallahassee for getting this proclamation thru to Governor Burns. Please rip this page out and get it to your newspaper editors, Radio and TV station news departments now. Let's spread the word to our citizens of Florida.)

# CLUB NEWS

## FLAMINGO NET

(Continued from Page 7)

has moved and was not present for the last couple of meetings. After the roll call on April 8, we had a contest on the air which consisted of a biographical quiz about a famous person. WA4NHT was the winner. At this meeting also, Walt, W4GJ was collecting birthday dates of all that checked in, no ulterior motive I hope.

On Sunday, April 24, we held a picnic for all members of the net at the YMCA grounds on 138th Street and 17th Street. Mel was in charge and he brought enough hotdogs to feed a crew of threshers. Boy, oh boy, did we have hot dogs.

After everyone had eaten all the hotdogs he could hold, and was sitting around in a comatose condition, a transmitter hunt got under way with Clarence WA4BPX hiding. Well, you might know that Clarence would have something up his sleeve for an occasion like this, and he did. He left in one car transmitting along in great shape, drove several blocks and then got into another car he had stashed out before the picnic started and that no one had seen before, and drove the new car back to the picnic area where he stayed. Carl W4DTJ was not fooled very long though and found him in jig time. Some of the fellows were so full of hot dogs they could not think and it took them quite a while to find him.

The next transmitter hunt is scheduled on May 29, so get a lli loop working on that mobile rig and join the fun.

The net still meets on Friday on 29.004MHz at 7:30. Come on down and meet the gang.

## NOFARS NEWS

By Jesse H. Morris, W4MV

The big news this month was the Orlando Hamfest. As usual the gang in Orlando put on a fine show for everyone. The only disappointment was the lack of exhibitors but everything else was top notch all the way. There were many Jacksonville Amateurs there and everyone certain-

ly enjoyed themselves.

There were a number of leaflets floating around the Hamfest in Orlando announcing a "Hamfest" in Jacksonville in September. It should be noted that this was news to those of us who are active in the club. This is not the Hamfest that we spoke of in this column a few months ago. The club, under the direction of the President, W4PLE, has been actively engaged in examining the merits of a Jacksonville Hamfest for the past several months. We have not considered this year as a date. We are not even sure it is advisable to have one here but we are working with the people of the Tourist and Convention Bureau on the possibility. If such an event comes off it will take lots of planning and backing. We do not wish to condemn such a Hamfest as was announced in Orlando but we do want to point out that it is not a club sponsored event.

Our Honduras operation is in full swing again. The transceiver is back in Trujillo and is operating fine. Schedules are being kept by W4MV on (or about) 14.335 at 1730Z on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We hope the Quad that the Beaches Amateur Radio Society built will soon be there and we have a HA-14 donated by a local nurses organization to go down there by the end of May.

That about does it for another month. Field Day is coming and we plan to run two transmitters again this year. We expect to turn in a better score this year than last. Until next month 73 and good luck.

## GAINESVILLE NEWS

By Bill Wells, K4RDP

The Orlando Hamfest is about the best centralized location for getting together to take care of all kinds of ham business; RACES, CD, MARS, Swap Shop and business meetings of active and responsible amateurs are also held in many different rooms. Last year we thought that this was "best yet" - now we feel that this year was "better-than-best yet". Our congrats to the OARC Hamfest Committee for once again a Job Well Done and we of the GARS are looking forward to next year.

Our plans for Field Day are nearing completion and we'll be in there working harder than ever before to win the "Florida Skip Trophy." Win, lose, or draw it'll be a real blast. Remember it always rains on Field Day.

All of the GARS mobiles participated in the recent SET exercise and our congrats to Mich, W4UW, EC for Alachua County and Lamar, WA4FLJ, EC of Bradford County for their joint effort in this test. Hope that



Marvin M. Bostian, WA4HDK of Tampa sent us this action shot taken by WA4GDS of two W4DUG (Tampa Amateur Radio Club) members busy handling Florida SET traffic May 7. EC, W4KRC directed the Tampa SET operations from his hospital bed and did an excellent job of it.

A.C. et al; will be pleased with the results overall.

Our AREC/ARPSC net on 29.55 mc FM really going great guns. We talk to John, W4GUJ almost at will now. Hats, K4JUZ in Lake City coming in at all times with a FB signal and he has agreed to take EC for Columbia County. AC, please note. (Thanks-AC)

Last night, our Area CD Director petitioned the Alachua County Commissioners for a bus declared surplus by the county medical department, for use as a county emergency communications unit. Looks like thru working with our local CD and RACES we'll soon have a nice portable Emergency Communications Center.

It was much to our sorrow to hear of the passing on of the XYL of Herb, K4AZ. Lou will be missed by many of us who have had the pleasure of visiting their home. Herb is also known as AA4AZ, Florida ONE, ArmyMARS.

## SUNCOAST VHF CLUB

By Nancy WA4EDL

Well, I guess everyone is noticing the cars heading north, a lot of them with Halos, Hustlers, and homebrews on the back. We have quite a few in this area who are heading for the still cold home state. Wish them all a safe trip and speedy return.

W4NEO Ed was the hidden transmitter and really played it sneaky, was hiding almost in his own back yard. W4GWW came in first and will hide the next one. Know it will be a good one.

W4KKS Wm. H. Simcox "Sim" gave the club a very interesting talk on transformers. How to wind, figure, and rebuild to your specifications. Even I could make one, just kidding tho', talk was very good for detail. Our thanks to you Sim for the good talk. See photo.

W4WME Bill Foley gave a talk May 13 on Capacitors having worked for Hammarlund for years. This was very enlightening to all.

K4LYS Jim is lining up the mobiles in the area for AREC. So if your name isn't on the list contact Jim in the evenings at his home. Remember in an emergency, mobiles and portable rigs will be of great need. So turn out and lets see what range your mobiles can be heard and from what location.

June is field day so better brush up the generators, get out the tents,

wash out the ole coffee pots and be ready.

K4EAC Hilda was back in town for a while, and will be again. She is at her son's W4TKE Walt in Gainesville for the summer. W4TKE Walt showed Ned K4CNB a very nice time while Ned was up at the U. of F. for Fla. Land Title Association Conference. That's why we missed Orlando.

## Synthetic UHF Signal

A constant, dependable signal source is often needed when experimenting with UHF antenna arrays, and other UHF tests. Rather than buying an expensive UHF signal generator, a useful test signal can be "simulated" in the shack in the following manner: Using a known commercial UHF station as the signal source, point your beam or dish antenna on the roof of your house towards the signal for maximum pickup. Connect this primary antenna with a length of coax to a secondary antenna (such as a simple vertical or dipole) located in your shack or work area. This secondary antenna will serve as a synthetic source, reradiating the signal picked up by the primary antenna.

Placing the experimental antenna a measured distance from this synthetic source, a receiver can be used to check its performance and make adjustments. If you already have a good UHF antenna, this makes a very cheap and dirty way to do without a signal generator.

Dick Frederick, K4UGC  
SKIP Technical Consultant

## SILENT KEY

We are deeply sorry to report the passing of the following Florida amateur:

Louis P. Herberger WA4FVP  
Venice, Florida

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# VHF MOBILE ANTENNAS

By Gary WA4 Pretty Darn Mean

Have you ever looked over the displays in Amateur Radio stores and have your eyes mysteriously halted at the 6 meter mobile antenna section. The vertical whips pose a nice neat and most acceptable looking picture next to your favorite halo, shower ring, square circle, or mobile TV horizontal monster. There is an almost irresistible urge to rip out that "thing" you have on now, or contemplate getting, thus returning to our sane society. Before you take this rash step look around you: are others using vertical arrays. If you are in one of those rare locations you may desire to switch into a vertical situation for strictly local work as there is much to be said for the advantages of similar polarizations on VHF locally. The only accessory you might consider along with the whip would be a large bottle of aspirin.

Returning to the world of Amateur Radio and thus horizontal antennas there are some accumulated tips which you might be interested in. These refinements have been gathered from mobile operations in northern and southern Florida over a two and one half year period.

Mechanical problems are usually the first encountered as installation progresses and thus will concern us first. After the bumper mount has been securely mounted, careful attention should be given to sway in your mast. Remember the main stresses will not only be in a rear direction as might be suspected but also from side to side as you round corners and "whip" your halo in its mount. The first stress may be relieved by first attaching a whip-clip over your car door and then running a nylon cord back to the mast just below the antenna. The second condition is not as easy to solve and will depend greatly upon your car and its bumper. Two "L" brackets on the sides of the heavy duty mount will often help. Another method is to secure a second gutter clip and rope to the other side of the car thus achieving a slight side boasting affect. Always use lock washers where practical.

Regarding the electrical installation, locate a grid dip meter and an SWR bridge. If these articles are not available others may be substituted but first get another bottle of aspirin. Ideally you should sample your transmitter's output on the desired 6 meter frequency and set your stolen grid dip meter for maximum reading. Then adjust all capacities for a maximum reading with this meter keeping the transmitter off or at standby. If you now install your SWR bridge at the antenna only you will be able to obtain an indication of your antenna's efficiency and make any needed fine adjustments. It is recommended that if you are using the three ring variety of halo you add an additional nut to the capacitor side of the large mounting disc and not depend upon the aluminum threading of the disc. Adjustments of this type of capacitor are very critical and aluminum threading means constant retuning and aggravation.

Another characteristic of the halo is its omnidirectionality which is not spherical. There is usually a gain factor in the direction of the halo's capacitor. By pointing the capacitor over the front fender opposite the side that the antenna is mounted you can accentuate this gain factor.

The above suggestions are treated in very general terms that were meant to be all inclusive, if such a thing is possible.

## TRAFFIC HOUNDS

NET	QNI	QTC	SESSIONS	AVG TFC
TPTN	727	368	26	14.2
WPTN	565	197	30	6.56
FMTN	525	512	26	19.7
FAST	926	510	25	20.4
GN	227	195	30	6.5
QFN	733	754	60	-
FATT				
VHFTN				



Mr. Bill Simeox WA1KKS gave an excellent talk on trans-formers at the Suncoast VHF club meeting Apr 18th. The Club meets at the CD Hdqtrs for Pinellas in St. Petersburg the first Friday. How many "heads" do you recognize?

(Photo by W4APV)

## AF Mars

By D.E. Hamilton AFB4FKH

The Air Force MARS meeting at the Orlando ham fest proved to be the most successful in several years.

Much of the success can be attributed to the efforts of Ken Wilde AF4KIS and Jim Emmons AF4OPR. Andy Galloup AF4-8ACC, transcon networks director deserves much credit for persuading Major Dick Waring, Chief MARS USAF, to attend.

We were honored by the presence of Joe Davidson AFA4FPP Georgia, Operations Manager of Area 2 and state directors Herman Schenck AF4IKX, Florida and Howard Binkley AFA4DNB Georgia.

There were approximately 80 members in attendance at the formal meeting. The outstanding event was an intensely interesting talk by Major Waring on the installation of USAF MARS stations in Vietnam, the

talk was amply illustrated by excellent colored slides.

Informal meetings on both Saturday and Sunday enabled most of us to iron out a number of existing problems and to formulate plans for future growth, better organization and greater efficiency.

We as a club extend our thanks to all who attended and hope that in future years we can look for your attendance with the same help and cooperation so cheerfully extended in the past. We also extend our sincere thanks to the Orlando Amateur Radio Club who organized the hamfest and made our meeting possible.



Of course some difficulties may be expected with all installations (not factory installed) due to varying characteristics between the antenna and the car. It is merely a matter of time, logic, consultation with the "Handbook" and finally the advice of another amateur who has a working model. Good luck.

HAVE YOU JOINED THE



IF NOT, CONTACT YOUR  
EMERGENCY COORDINATOR TODAY

## FLORIDA AMATEUR TRAFFIC NETS

Listed below is a complete active roll call of the Florida Amateur Sideband Traffic Net. Please clip out and keep it with you log. Each month we hope to publish each Florida net which can be clipped together and used as a FLORIDA TRAFFIC GUIDE. Other net managers are hereby requested to submit a complete active roll call to SKIP for publication. OK? Tks. AC.

(FAST daily except Saturday 2300Z on 3940 kc)

Atlantic Beach	-W4MVB*	Marathon	-WA4YWL
Arcadia	-K4FQH	Mariana	-WA4DED
	-WA4ACF	Miami	-K4ADD
Boca Raton	-W4BUG*		-K4YSN
Clearwater	-W4IRA*		-WA4LHK
	-W4CNA		-WA4TBM
	-WA4DEL		-WA4MGG
Cocoa	-W4CSU		-K2QJE/4
Davey	-K4EVY	New Port Richie	-WA4KDL
Eau Gallie	-WA4NBE*	Okeechobee	-W4GM
Englewood	-WA4STM	Ocala	-WA4LRW
Ft. Myers	-WA4JOF	Panama City	-WA4NRP
	-WA4SCH		-WA4FLJ
	-WA4LFZ		-WA4IMC
	-WA4HXY	Palm Bay	-WA4MOL
	-WA4EVI	Palm Beach	-W4GWF
	-WA4HDH		-WA4COR
Ft. Lauderdale	-W4SLU	Pensacola	-WA4RBM
	-W4QBY	Port Charlotte	-K5SSR/4*
	-WA4OAO	St. Augustine	-W4UGQ
Ft. Pierce	-W4AYD	Satelite Beach	-WA4EYY
Gainesville	-W4VPQ	Sarasota	-WA4PSD
	-W4DFU*	Sebring	-W4CPW
	-WA4UJK	Sebring	-W4FCP*
	-K4RZO	Stewart	-K4NKA
	-K4TQL/4	St. Pete	-W4LDN
	-K4RZO		-WA4FGH
Indian Harbor B.	-WA4VME	Sanford	-WA4HDS
Indian River City	-K4ENW	Sanford	-K4QCG
Jacksonville	-W4GUJ	St. Cloud	-WA4RGO
	-W4OWZ	Temple Terrace	-WA4RGO
	-WA4WTC	Taveris	-W4SCY
	-WA4NEV*	Tallahassee	-K4PNJ
	-WA4NMG	Tampa	-W4EDZ
	-K4VDC		-W4BNE
	-W4YPX		-W4IAD
	-WA4WOW		-WA4GDS
	-WA4VZD*		-K4QNX
	-W4NGR		-WA4OUM
Key West	-WA4SHJ		-WA4SCK
Lake Mary	-W4RQP		-K4QAY
Leisure City	-WA4BMC		-WA4BMG*
Homestead	-W4FP		
Lake Worth	-W4SVB		
Lakeland	-WA4NBT		

## F.A.T.T. Net

Bob Street, W4IET

Activity (RTTY style) is still rampant on 3705kc every evening at 7 P.M. (0000Z), rain or shine, hurricane or tornado, when Rex W4ZAG, NCS for FATT call the roll. ANY SHIFT FSK (under the legal 1000 cycles, of course) is welcome as Rex's converter can accommodate most any shift.

The FATT (Florida Amateur Teletype Traffic Net) is affiliated with the Florida RTTY Society, Inc., however you do not have to be a member to participate in the FATT net. Membership in FRS is beneficial to the RTTYer, beginner or oldtimer. For example, one of the benefits is the Florida RTTY Bulletin (free to members) which is chock full of RTTY information and construction articles along with listings of new and used RTTY equipment. Drop the secretary a line, Fred W4RWM, Box 6047, Daytona Beach, Fla. Mention you read it from FATT.

Ted WA4IZZ was forced to QRT from the net a few nights ago and drive the XYL to the hospital. Now Ted has an additional harmonic (number eight) to help him check in the net. Congratulations Ted, Louise and the entire octave.

John W4ANJ is still pounding a powerful "United Press" type signal down south Florida way. QSB, QRM and QRN don't effect solid copy at all from John's signal. Will have to sneak a look at John's antenna system someday, as we could sure use some added signal strength to push through the QRM mess on eighty at nights. John does it with 850 cycle wide shift too.

Our leader, REX W4ZAG, celebrated his 70th birthday the other day. Congratulations REX from the whole RTTY gang.

Jack W4OKW (Satellite Beach), Fay WA4ACF (Arcadia) Ted WA4IZZ (Cocoa), John K4ANJ (Ocala), Vern W4VKH (Ocala), Red W4IMZ (Plantation), Bud W4ELQ (Pompano Beach); have been doing their share in traffic handling the past few weeks. A good bit of Vietnam traffic has been relayed this month, along with some S.E.T. messages. Keep up the good work.

We missed the SKIP deadline last month, so if we don't sign now, we will miss this one. Remember the FATT net is on the air EVERY NIGHT AT 7 P.M. so there is no excuse for not joining the game sometime during the week. 73's and C U Tonite!

Dear Andy,

Here it is January again and the time has rolled around to renew my subscription to "SKIP." I sure would miss it if it was discontinued, as I am a faithful reader of your great L'U mag, and have been for the past 6 years.

The Antique Wireless Museum is still growing, and now includes some 500 items of early wireless and radio gear dating back to 1899 when Marconi first came to America. Have some of his original instruments used here, but made in England. In fact a complete vacuum type coherer receiver first used to receive signals when art was new.

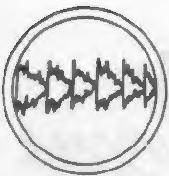
You might mention that The W2ZI Historical Wireless Museum is open daily, and anyone is cordially invited to stop in at 19 Blackwood Drive, West Trenton, N.J., which is just off the River road, 4 miles from the heart of the city. A phone call to (609) 882-6845 will reach me for further directions. Suggest anyone wishing to pay a visit to the Museum, either write or telephone a few days before hand, so that they will be sure I am at home. We had over 100 visitors here last year from all over the USA, and are always glad to accommodate any interested folks anytime.

Sincerely,  
Ed G. Raser, W2ZI  
"One of The Pioneers"

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# The Florida Side Banders Association

By Jesse H. Morris, W4MVB

This year's Orlando Hamfest was attending by about sixty Association members and a good time was the order of the day, and night! There was the dinner on Saturday night as usual and the meeting on Saturday afternoon as usual. Also as usual there was "Sing Along with Ray."

In addition to all this there were several items of business of a rather serious nature. Vance, W4OVE, made several remarks about the way the Emergency Net had operated recently. Vance said he was very pleased by the conduct of the net members during emergencies. He stated that we should always look for ways to improve the net.

Vance also spoke at length on the subject of the previously mentioned "Mobile Net." There appears to be many ways such a net could be used and much of the discussion was on this subject. Vance asked WA4MGG and W4BUG to serve with him on a committee to study this net further.

Andy, W4IYT, brought up the question of how the Emergency Net could fit into the Florida AREC picture. There was considerable discussion on this matter with more discussion

planned before any conclusions could be reached.

At the dinner in the evening WA4NEV and W4MVB were jointly awarded "Side-Bander of the Year." This writer was most pleased and proud of such an honor. W4RA and W4MVB were presented certificated by WA4VZD proclaiming them to be Honorary Conches. The certificates were signed by the Mayor of Monroe County, the Honorable Gerald Saunders.

There were five new members certified during the month of April. On April 10 Mr. Edward C. Mattson, W4GM, was certified as member number 262. Clerk is from Okeechobee. On April 17 Mr. E. H. Case, W4NGR, was certified as member number 263. Case is from Lake Mary. On April 24 the following were certified: Mr. Donald E. Barnes, WA4YJA, as number 264. Don is from Jacksonville, Mrs. Betty Coleman, W4EHN, as number 265. Betty is from St. Cloud. Also on the 24th Mr. Raymond A. Liles, WA4VME, was certified as member number 266. Welcome aboard all.

Tony, W4JQ, made PEP again during the month of April.

This old typewriter is forgetting how to spell, write, and think so I guess it is time to call it another month. It was very nice seeing everyone in Orlando and the only regret was that there wasn't enough time to talk to everyone at length. It was nice to shake hands though and to have a word or two here and there. It will be some time before I will see you that way again but I will see you right here next month so until then 73 and good luck.

DE W4MVB

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The Dade County ARPSC Key CW Station K4IWT/4 elected to operate under emergency condition during SET, May 7th in the Everglades west of Miami. Using a 6 meter link back to the city and a BW5100/75A3 on QFEN solid communications was held for 4 hours. It's rained like crazy but the generator didn't miss a putt. Operating from a panel truck we have L to R: K4JWM, W4IYT, WA4WUD, WA4DHU, K4ZDS (seated) and WA4RRB.  
(Photo by WA4PDM)

## DX REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

issues. Furthermore, QSL's may be submitted only in the months of March and September, which makes it even rougher on the guys on the top. I guess the grand prize for being world leader in DXCC is not to get your call printed, hi. They started the Honor Roll and I think they should now finish it and continue printing each and every call like before, even if it takes another page, as thousands of DX hounds read these listings. They would cut a page of "How's DX" on the stations heard and the times and frequencies, since after the three months it takes to get this information in print the stations are usually long gone QRT, hi. 73.

## SUPPORT SKIP ADVERTISERS

### LETTERS

(Continued from Page 2)

(boy, that's funny, K6BX claims the same, too, hi).

Pse feel fre to write me whenever you need any information from this end. I'll be glad to do everything possible.

73!

John Velamo OH2YV  
Isokkaari 4 B 30  
HELSINKI 20, Finland



# FLORIDORA News

By Cathy Soehl - W4BAV

K4ZXS-Georgia, retiring Secy. K4UIZ-Ev passed around, to the members, the official document showing the "FLORIDORA" girl is copyrighted.

K4RHL-Ellie, Trustee of the Floridora station, advised the FCC has granted our request to change the Club call from WA4RXP to W4FE, as a memorandum to Art Benzee. It was voted to make K4ANR-Ruth Benzee a life member.

K4TBG-Kay, Treas., reported we have 92 members. K4RNS-Marge installed the new officers. WA4FJF-Ellen then appointed W4BAV-Kathy, Publicity Chairman, WA4SII-Cuddy Membership Chairman and W4QBY-Dorothea, Net Manager, who immediately got a net control set up for many months to come.

W4QBY-Dorothea won the door prize which was a micro Lite. It was also reported that K4RHL's OM, K4YBL-Jake has promised to make up the new QSL cards for W4FE. Congratulations to the retiring officers, who did such a fine job and good luck to the new officers.

W4BIL-Fran & OM, W4WME-Bill enjoyed a trip down the East Coast in their camper. Bill acquired quite a sunburn down in the Everglades, which resulted in the "peeling stage" when he returned to work from his vacation....K4CSC-Edna & OM, W4PWB-Walt chaperoned a group of 50 square dancers, flying via jet, to Hawaii. Walt is a square dance caller and each year the group take a trip, having scheduled appearances at the hotels, etc.

K4TBG-Kay is getting a Swan 350, with the new HA-6 Transverter.

W4WPD-Shirley "dood it", i.e. passed her State Board Beautician exam. Congratulations. Shirley did not attend the SSB dinner at the Orlando Hamfest, but won a \$25.00 check as her prize on the SSB drawing....

WA4NFA-Frances and OM, W4NOK-Jack were saddened by the passing of their cocker spaniel, Cindy, who had been their constant companion for going on 11 years.

Fire Drill they staged on the morning of April 8..... Good Friday WAS A HUM DINGER!

(Our sincere thanks to Dot an Ken Lewis K4GUE/AA4GUE for this most interesting story.)

# HAMBAR

This column is FREE to any licensed Radio Amateur who is a subscriber to Florida Skip. Limit 3 per year. Additional \$1.00 each. Non-subscribers and non-amateurs \$1.00 each up to 10 lines. All listings are cancelled each month. If your listing is not moved, it will be necessary to re-list the following month.

To Licensed Amateurs: Buy, Swap, Sell (non-commercial) - Free.

To Commercial Business: Classified, undisplayed - 50¢ per line: Illustrative or General Display with border - \$3.50 min., \$80/page; Initial cost of cuts, additional. Cuts furnished, no charge. Deadline 10th of month.

An Advertising inch is measured 7/8" vertically on one column, i.e., 4 columns = 40 column inches to a page. Rate card by column inch supplied upon request. FLORIDA SKIP, Advertising Department, P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla.

FOR SALE: Knight T-50 xmtr, 50W 80-10 meters with Knight VFO, complete, \$25.00; WANTED: Money. Dick Blasco, WA4DHU, 6270 N.W. 38th Terrace, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166, PH 887-1166.

FOR SALE: Spare parts for Navy TDF xmtr; Heath AR-3 with QF-1 mult., \$20.00; Heath Tener \$25.00; 22-1624 tubes. E. L. Browder W4NUH, P.O. Box 9094, Union Park, Fla., 32807.

WANTED: Sturdy, diligent, courageous, helpful, kind and obedient amateur to volunteer for EC of Dade County. What say fellas? Guess who placed this ad.

FOR SALE: Instructograph std AC model w/10 Cont. Morse tapes, factory installed osc, less headphones, \$35.00 f.o.b. E. G. Schroeder K4ZYA, 278 SE 4th Ave., Pompano Beach, Fla. 33060, PH 942-1169.

WANTED: 2nd class radio telephone licensed in the Bartow, Lakeland areas to work as helper two way radio repair with the State Road Department. Contact K4ELT, D. Goodman, Box 989, Bartow, Fla. 33830.

FOR SALE: Hallicrafters SX-117 receiver, HA-10 LF/MF tuner, and R-48A spkr. John W. Thompson, 1110 N.E. 140th St., North Miami, Fla., Phone 754-8709.

WANTED: Tri or all band transceiver, trade or sell 75A4 receiver. Dan Franklin, K4EHY, 11150-58th St., Pinellas Park, Fla., or c/o USCG FPO NY 09557.

FOR SALE: Globe HiBander 6 & 2 M transmitter, \$75.00; RME UHF-126 converter 6, 2 & 1 1/4 mtr, best offer over \$100.00; Ameco CB-6 6 mtr converter \$10.00; Gaiin BP-144 2 meter filter \$8.00; 416B preamp for 2 mtrs \$8.00; tubes: 802s, 4X150A w/skt, 4X150G, 3C24s, 5E29, 417A, JK25 and 417 Elystrons, make offer. Wes Krawitz, WA4AME, 610 Ridge Rd., Jensen Beach, Fla. 33457, Phone 287-4417.

FOR SALE: 500 W linear GG 75-10 mtr, with B&W pi-net inductors and B&W fil and plate chokes, pr

811A's, complete with 1325 VDC AC supply, \$75.00. H. J. Stark WA4MTH, 9231 Caribbean Blvd., Miami, Fla., 33157, Phone 235-4021.

FOR SALE: Swan 350 with Ac power supply - excellent condx, \$350.00; Heath sizer in new cx and S-76 rcvr in gd ex, best offers. Willard "Ken" Bentz K4MNB, 767 NW 7th Dr., Boca Raton, Fla. PH 395-0899.

FOR SALE: Collins 6251 factory aligned, new 4CX250R final, \$550.00; Drake 2B and 2BQ Q-mult, xtal cal, \$225.00; Gonset Comm IV 6 meters, halo, 6 xtals, \$200.00; Heath HW-22 40 mtr xcvr with HP20 AC supp \$130.00; Heath sizer \$35.00; WANTED: 80' EZ Way tower, Waters Dummy load/wattmeter or Byrd wattmeter with 1 kw slug. Bob Silwanicz K3-TFG/4, 2710 NE 5th St., Pompano Beach, Fla. 33062, Ph 943-2494.

QUICK SALE: Heathkit Cheyenne xmtr, Comanche receiver, UT-1 a.c. supply, mobile mike and mounting brackets \$125.00. Gonset Communicator III for 6 meters \$150.00. AM-ECO CB-6 convertor (new tubes) \$15.00. Hy-Gain 14AV5 vertical \$5. John Deegan WA4QLZ, 13895 SW 72 Ct., Miami, Fla. 33158 phone 238-5265.

FOR SALE: HW-32 transceiver, a.c. supply, Heath speaker Shure 202 mike \$100.00. Will trade for HW-12. All new condition. Harry Mills W4EKY, 12260 SW 191 Terr., Miami, Fla. 33157 phone CE 5-6679.

FOR SALE: 60 ft. tower, 20 inch sides, flanged, tubular steel, 4 by 15 ft sections, never been up in A-1 condition. \$90.00. Moseley TA-33 beam excellent \$50.00. Two emcor sloping front console cabinets for 19 inch panels \$20.00 each. SWAN SW-117 a.c. power supply, like new \$45. New 1800 watt gasoline generator \$165.00. Panoramic adapter BC-698 for 445 kc if, \$35.00. Plate xfmr 1500-0-1500 v.a.c. at 1 amp never been used \$25.00. Oscilloscope 3 inch portable \$15.00. Ray LaRue W4BYG, 349 N.E. Lasalle, Port Charlotte, Fla.

FOR SALE: SWAN 250 six meter SSB transceiver, brand new with a.c. supply \$375.00. 432 mb. converter and pre-amp \$25.00. Upper side band up-converter 28 mc to 432 mc, \$30.00. J. W. Gregory K4OCK, 6495 Killian Dr., Miami, Fla. 33157.

WANTED: ALL F.D. SCORES ASAP. HOW ABOUT SOME FIELD DAY PHOTOS TOO? DON'T forget the SKIP Field Day trophies. - Skip Editor

FOR SALE: Viking Adventurer, 50W 80-10M CW, beautiful condx, \$40; Heath VF1 VFO aligned \$10.00; Heath 0-12 lab scope excellent \$30.00; Navy LAF-3 VHF signal generator, 80-600 mc AM, CW pulse, two counter dials, meter, built-in AC supply, \$40.00; WANTED: clean Ranger or equiv., Heath panadaptor. M. B. Goldblatt W4EMB, 11801 SW 70th Ave., Miami, Fla. 33156, PH 666-6997 after 7PM.

FOR SALE: Code practicing oscillator vol/tone, 110 v. ac, \$6.00. 20 watts 12 inch speaker housed in black metal cabinet. \$8.00, it has 500 ohm or 8 ohm input. Pierson KE-93 mobile amateur band receiver with a.c. and d.c. Pierson power supplies and speaker. \$65.00. AR-57 mike and cord. \$4.00 with stand. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, Fla. 33166 Phone 888-3874.

FOR SALE: 2500 W 4 cy hand crank emergency generator, best offer over \$200.00. Bill Craven, P.O. Box 208, Buena Stn., Miami Florida 33137, PL 1-5661.

FOR SALE: HQ-170C Hammarlund Receiver in new condition, \$150. Viking Valiant Transmitter in good condition, \$100. Hornet Tri-band 3-element Beam, \$25. CDR Rotator and Indicator, \$75. RG-8U Coax in long lengths, \$325.00 takes the works and should put you in business with addition of few extras. John Kane, W4-KK, 1870 Coral Way, Miami, or HI 4-4573 during Office Hours.

FOR SALE: SX117 Hallicrafters Receiver, HA-10 LF/MF Tuner, R48A Speaker. Cost \$425, will sell for \$250. in very good condition. John Thompson, 1110 NE 140 Street, N. Miami, 754-8709.

FOR SALE: Hallicrafters HT-32, \$239; B&W L-1000 kw linear with pr 813's CG and home brew pwr supp \$135.00; Central Elect. MM-2 scope \$80.00; all in fb condx. C. C. McClymonds, W4DZU, 1201 NE 88th St., Miami, Fla. PH 751-0185.

FOR SALE: ART-13, 2-20 mcs continuous @ 400 W AM or CW, spare 813 final, in good condx with parts for power supply (plate and fil. xfmrs), \$50.00; TS-323/UR frequency meter 20-480 mcs with built-in calibrator, tone modulator, in case, excellent condx, \$40.00; large 12" spkr in fiberglass packed case, \$7.00. Dick Blasco W4DHU, 6270 N.W. 38th Terrace, Virginia Gardens, Fla. 33166, PH 887-1166.

FOR SALE: 500 Watt Lin amp. G.G. 80-10. Has B and W 851 Pi-network, B&W FC-15 filament choke, B&W 800 RF plate, 2-811A's. 2-2B28's H.V. oil filled caps. A beautiful deal. \$75.00. H. J. Stark WA4MTH, 9231 Caribbean Blvd., Miami, Fla. 33157, Phone 235-4021.

FOR SALE: DRAKE 2-B, HT-37, Drake hi-patch, mike and stand, 14-AVS, can demonstrate on air, any band, any mode. \$400.00. Jim Mattison W4FNE, 2237 Blossom Terr., Orlando, Fla. Phone 855-9629.

## EXCLUSIVE REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

to "QRX." With the exception of breaks for lunches (usually sketchy) and dinner, the Board was in informal session from approximately 4 PM Wednesday until 2 A.M. Thursday, 9:30 AM Thursday until 1 A.M. Friday; and in formal session from 9:30 AM Friday until midnight, and 9:30 AM Saturday until 10 PM. Needless to say, there was no time for visiting with HQ personnel and the few Directors who brought their wives along for a "short vacation" saw them only at breakfast! (We will mercifully omit the quotes of the XYLs!)

The general theme throughout could be covered in a few words --- economical operation, increased "grass-roots" contact with the members, and "increased membership."

## Dear Gladys

Guess what, Clyde has a shack! I think the brick rig did it. After he saw it, he said what he needed was a room all of his own, so I wouldn't worry so much about making his rig pretty.

It's easy to build a shack, Gladys. All they need is a Florida room or a carport, two week's vacation, and an F.H.A. home improvement loan for a \$1,000. And two neighbors to help and six to stand around and give advice, and one wife as a sort of trotting day laborer.

And a case of beer at frequent intervals and a massage unit, and Blue Cross. And a well-rounded vocabulary of swear words and neighbors with a large variety of power tools.

And a friend who can get things for you wholesale... but of course he tells you after you've bought whatever it was at list price, and a keg of nails, some to use, some to scatter around, and half to keep in the utility room to rust in the keg.

When he had finished it, he said he saved about \$500 by doing it himself. I had to pull him up out of chairs for two weeks and I believe he's reading truss ads.

He's still looking for the dog whose feet fit the paw prints in the new cement.

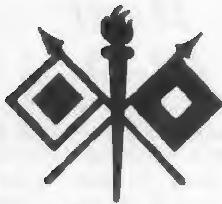
Love,  
Mabel

P.S. Why don't you and Homer come down the weekend of the 15th? You can see the new shack and then we can all go to the Orange Bowl for the Chinch Bug Festival.

Since this is being readied for a "SKIP" deadline, detail will be left to later articles.

73 "Chuck" -- W4LVV

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## ARMY MARS

By AD4IHH

A capacity crowd of Army MARS members turned out in Orlando at the hamfest held on April 30th and May 1st. Jim, AD4TBM, won one of the main prizes, a fifty dollar gift certificate from the Drake Co.

At the meeting on Sunday morning, members filled the room to capacity as they heard the Deputy Director, Wade Nelms, discuss third army plans to link all districts together by a series of two meter repeater stations. With the recent issuing of a quantity of two meter equipment to all MARS members, it is hoped that this will provide the communications back-up so long deemed necessary in the Third Army Area. When the installations are complete, it is hoped that members can communicate with any other stations anywhere, by working through these FM "Repeater" stations which will be spaced about eighty miles apart. This system already is in daily use in Georgia and Tennessee, providing a constant communications channel which would be impossible to achieve on HF frequencies. Following Mr. Nelms's talk, Chuck, AD4MSN, displayed one of the two meter units he had already converted. Everyone agreed he had done an excellent job in turning out a fine piece of gear.

Red, A4HLO, the Florida one director, spoke about the communications reliability which has already been established between his station in Florida one, and AD4IHH in Florida two. Copies of conversion information were then passed out to the members present, with the indication that the mailing of the main conversion article from Fort McPherson would soon be complete, at which time every member who was issued two meter gear should have received the conversion information.

Making the trip from Georgia we had AD4MKD, and of course Mr. Nelms, A4ZNY. Florida two



How many of you have seen a honest to gosh amateur television station? Well take a look at Jim Hayworth's Homebrew ATV station WA4QPP-TV of Orlando, Florida. Next month SKIP will carry a feature article by R. Montgomery K4VFV on the activities of the Central Florida ATV group.

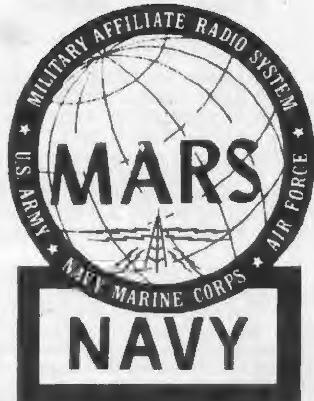
(Photo via K4VFV)

seemed to beat Florida one in attendance with 29 from Fla 1, and 35 from Fla 2. Some fine prizes were sent down by Fort McPherson with practically everyone winning something of value.

For many, the social highlight of the weekend was the open house at Hart's, AD4BWH. Once again this year, Hart and his lovely XYL invited the members out on Saturday evening, and practically everyone went. The "Hart Hilton" as it was soon called rang through much of the night with the sounds of members having eyeball QSO's. Eating Hart and his wife out of house and home, and consuming vast quantities of liquid refreshment. As the evening wore on they practically blew up Hart's rig as they literally disrupted the /H net by checking into it en masse!!!! All in all a good time was had by all, and it's hoped that Hart and his XYL will recover sufficiently to have us back next year!

See you next month.....

NOTE...This column was sent in its entirety on RTTY on Army MARS frequencies from AD4IHH to AD4GKF for delivery to A4IYT, Editor of Florida Skip.



By Jim Wilson,  
WA4RXG  
NO WCK

At our Navy MARS meeting at the recent Orlando Hamfest we were pleased to learn that the enrollment in Navy MARS has increased far beyond any expectations. The Navy is pleased with the program and is pushing forward to use its tremendous potential.

It was found that there was such a load of traffic from and to Viet Nam that it hampered the phone patches to home, which meant so much to the boys in Viet Nam. Hence, additional frequency assignments were made as follows for Navy MARS activity:

Message traffic: 14385 kc  
Phone patches: 13975 kc  
13925 kc

"Class Easy" traffic and patches to Navy ship personnel has been allowed on Navy MARS frequencies only when the ships were in harbor or within the 3 mile limit. Attempts are being made to extend this to operation on the high seas. This would mean a lot to the men on the ships and we hope this can be accomplished.

It is hoped that the 6th Naval District MARS RTTY net on 7301 kc at 2000 Z Sundays will continue to grow in popularity. It will continue at that hour despite other time changes under Annex Bravo.

It is a pleasure to report the following Navmar appointments: Glenn E. Rupp, N6VDI, Jacksonville Coordinator, N.E. Fla. Area Georgia Denman, N6ZTC, Orlando, Deputy Coordinator N.E. Fla. Area.

The inquiries addressed to this correspondent about Navmars were appreciated. Now that I have a different ham call I'll give you my address - 1204 Avocado Isle, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33315. I'll be glad to answer your questions.